

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 73 has been amended. Claims 1-3, 6-15, 17-19, 22-31, 33-39, 42-44, 46-48, 51-52, 54-56, 59-60, 62-66, 68, 69, 72, and 73 are pending and under consideration.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 6-15, 17-19, 22-31, 33-39, 42-44, 46-48, 51-52, 54-56, 59-60, 62-66, 68, 69, and 72 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Santo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,587,284 – hereinafter Santo) in view of Kasuga et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,844,881 – hereinafter Kasuga). However, on page 2, the Office Action acknowledged that claim 73 was added. The Office Action Summary did not acknowledge claim 73 and claim 73 was not included in the 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection. To clarify, claims 1-3, 6-15, 17-19, 22-31, 33-39, 42-44, 46-48, 51-52, 54-56, 59-60, 62-66, 68, 69, 72, and 73 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Santo in view of Kasuga.

The Office Action states Santo discloses, "...wherein at least one of the first and second focusing/tilting coils and the tracking coil is a fine pattern coil." In Fig. 10, Santo shows focusing coils 55a and 55c and printed coil boards 54a and 54b. Santo describes the winding direction of the focusing coils 55a and 55c (col. 7, lines 14-19).

However, Santo fails to teach or suggest, "...at least one of the first and second focusing/tilting coils and the tracking coil is a fine pattern coil" as recited in independent claims 1, 17, 35, 46, 54, and 66.

The Office action asserts that Kasuga makes up for the deficiencies of Santo.

Although Kasuga discusses focusing drive coils 4 and tracking drive coils (col. 2, lines 64-66). Kasuga fails to teach or suggest, "...at least one of the first and second focusing/tilting coils and the tracking coil is a fine pattern coil" as recited in independent claims 1, 17, 35, 46, 54, and 66.

The Office Action states that Kasuga discloses,

"Wherein moving the position of the neutral zone changes the magnetic flux of the respective magnet parts."

Kasuga describes increasing the magnetic flux density (col. 5, lines 14-19). However, Kasuga states in col. 5, lines 58-65:

In practice, because of this shift, the upper and lower portions of the focusing magnet section 6a become unbalanced with each other. However, since the value z is much smaller than the vertical length of the focusing magnet section 6a, the magnet section 6a is maintained unchanged in characteristic. Further, since the position of magnetization is changed by use of a magnetizing jig, the change can be readily changed.

Kasuga compensates for the deleterious effects of moving the position of the neutral zone by reducing the weight of the lens holder side, mounting the drive coils 3 and 4 on the lens holder 1, and mounting the magnets 6 on the stationary member, namely, the outer yoke 9 (col. 6, lines 11-15). Kasuga states, "Hence, with the device of the invention, the objective lens **can be held at the neutral point** without application of current to the drive coils" (*emphasis added*, col. 6, lines 29-31).

Thus, Kasuga, teaches away from "...wherein moving the position of the neutral zone changes the magnetic flux of the respective magnet parts" as recited in amended, independent claim 73.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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By: Gregory W. Harper
Gregory W. Harper
Registration No. 55,248

1201 New York Avenue, NW, 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501